

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

December 10, 2013

The short strip of state highway known as the Marina Freeway has served as a transit gateway to Marina del Rey for more than 50 years, bringing hundreds of thousands of inland visitors to one of the world’s largest man-made recreational marinas. Part of California State Route 90, the Marina Freeway connects the Marina to Greater Los Angeles and is relied upon by Marina del Rey residents and visitors alike to travel in and out of the community. Yet despite the highway’s strong and historical affinity with Marina del Rey, Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin recently proposed that the Marina Freeway’s name be changed to the “Ballona Freeway,” after the Ballona Creek, which crosses under the freeway.

Changing the name of this 1.5 mile route would needlessly strip a vital community of a transit gateway strongly associated with Marina del Rey’s identity and would likely cause unnecessary confusion for motorists.

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MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

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While it is important to recognize the significance of Ballona Creek and its surroundings wetlands, there are more appropriate ways to do so than by naming a freeway after this natural resource.

Planned extensions of the Marina Freeway were defeated by intense community opposition in the 1960s. As a result, State Route 90 ends for westbound travelers and begins for eastbound travelers in the community of Marina del Rey, and it is unlikely that will ever change. The Marina Freeway's name should also remain unchanged.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS oppose any and all action taken to change the name of the Marina Freeway.

FURTHER, I MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DIRECT the Chief Executive Officer to send letters to 11<sup>th</sup> District Los Angeles Councilman Bonin individually; to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the other members of the Los Angeles City Council; and to appropriate state elected representatives opposing the proposed freeway name change.

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SN:ha